REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to Office Action mailed 12/20/2006, applicants wish to present the following amendments, remarks, and arguments.

Claims 1, 11, and 13 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 26-32 have been canceled.

Following the entry of the present amendment, claims 1-25 are pending.

Rejections under 35 USC § 102

Applicant(s) respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-32 under 35 USC § 102 in view of Patterson (US 2002/0052941 A1, hereinafter "Patterson").

Claims 1 has been amended to recite as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method for ~~displaying~~ enabling a user to configure a communication network in a graphical user interface (GUI) display, comprising:

configuring ~~displaying~~ at least a portion of said communication network in said GUI display, including configuring a plurality of network element icons representing a plurality of network elements and logical connections among said plurality of network ~~element icons;~~ elements, including:

selecting a first network element icon of said plurality of network element icons for configuring a first network element of said plurality of network elements, said first network element represented by said first network element icon,

ascertaining a first set of properties associated with said first network element, said first set of properties being displayed in said GUI display and representing properties available for said first network element in said communication network,

associating a subset of said first set of properties with said first network element icon, thereby causing said subset of said first set of properties to also be associated with said first network element, said associating a subset of said first set of properties performed by said user, and

~~ascertaining a first set of properties associated with a first network element of said plurality of network elements, said first set of properties representing properties associated with said first network element in said communication network; and~~

displaying at least one visual indicator in said GUI display, said at least one visual indicator being displayed in a visually connected manner with ~~a first network element icon representing~~ said first network element icon, said at least one visual indicator visually indicating in said GUI display that said subset of said first set of properties ~~is~~ being associated with said first network element in said communication network.

Claim 13 has been amended as follows.

13. (Currently amended) A method for ~~displaying~~ enabling a user to configure a communication network in a graphical user interface (GUI) display, comprising:

selecting a first network element icon of said plurality of network element icons for configuring a first network element of said plurality of network elements, said first network element represented by said first network element icon,

ascertaining a first set of properties associated with said first network element, said first set of properties being displayed in said GUI display and representing properties available for said first network element in said communication network,

associating a subset of said first set of properties with said first network element icon, , thereby causing said subset of said first set of properties to also be associated with said first network element, said associating a subset of said first set of properties performed by said user,

displaying at least one visual indicator in said GUI display, said at least one visual indicator being displayed in a visually connected manner with said first network element

icon, said at least one visual indicator visually indicating in said GUI display that said subset of said first set of properties being associated with said first network element in said communication network,

selecting a second network element icon of said plurality of network element icons for configuring a second network element of said plurality of network elements, said second network element represented by said second network element icon,

ascertaining a second set of properties associated with said second network element, said second set of properties being displayed in said GUI display and representing properties available for said second network element in said communication network,

associating a subset of said second set of properties with said second network element icon, thereby causing said subset of said second set of properties to also be associated with said second network element, said associating said subset of said second set of properties performed by said user, and

displaying at least another visual indicator in said GUI display, said at least another visual indicator being displayed in a visually connected manner with said second network element icon, said at least another visual indicator visually indicating in said GUI display that said subset of said second set of properties being associated with said second network element in said communication network, said at least another visual indicator being displayed simultaneously with said at least one visual indicator in said GUI display.

~~displaying at least a portion of said communication network in said GUI display, including a plurality of network element icons representing a plurality of network elements and logical connections among said plurality of network element icons;~~

~~ascertaining a first set of properties associated with a first network element of said plurality of network elements, said first set of properties representing properties associated with said first network element in said communication network;~~

~~ascertaining a second set of properties associated with a second network element of said plurality of network elements, said second set of properties representing properties associated with said second network element in said communication network;~~

~~visually indicating in said GUI display that said first set of properties is associated with said first network element in said communication network; and~~

~~visually indicating in said GUI display, simultaneously with said visually indicating that said first set of properties is associated with said first network element, that said second set of properties is associated with said second network element in said communication network.~~

It is respectfully submitted that Patterson fails to disclose or suggest the features of configuring the network element represented by the network element icon by selecting the network element icon, ascertaining the available properties, associating a subset of the available properties with the network element icon, thereby causing the subset of the available properties to also be associated with the network element and the at least one visual indicator to visually show the association between the subset of the available properties and the network element.

At most Patterson discloses that the network nodes can be displayed with various colors indicative of status obtained via monitoring. See Patterson, paragraph 195 and Fig. 3A. There is no disclosure or suggestion in Patterson that the network nodes can be configured and displayed in the manner claimed.

For example, Patterson simply does not disclose or suggest, in the manner claimed, that the user can select a network element icon and can choose a subset of the available properties displayed on the GUI display for associating with the network element icon. Additionally or alternatively, Patterson does not disclose or suggest that the association between the subset of displayed properties and the network element icon would result in the subset of displayed properties becoming associated with the network element itself. Additionally or alternatively, Patterson simply does not disclose or suggest the display of the visual indicator reflective of the association between the subset of properties and the network element in the manner claimed.

Claim 13 is also amended to recite the configuration not only of one network element but of at least two network element icons, whereby the visual indicators for the two configured network element icons are displayed simultaneously. It is submitted that Patterson fails to anticipate amended claim 13 at least for the reasons discussed in connection with amended claim 1.

In view of the amendments to independent claims 1 and 13 and the failure of Patterson to disclose or suggest all elements of the amended claims, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 1 and 13 are novel, nonobvious and patentable over the cited art of record. The rejection of these claims should be withdrawn.

Claims 2-12 and 14-25 should also be deemed patentable not only due to their dependence from now-patentable parent claims 1 and 13 but also due to their recitations of independently patentable features. The allowance of these claims is also respectfully solicited.

CONCLUSION

In view of the discussion herein, Applicant(s) believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at 408-257-5500.

Applicant(s) hereby petitions to revive the case due to unintentional abandonment in failing to timely respond to the Office Action. A check/credit card form in the amount of $1540.00 to cover the revival fee is enclosed herewith. If any additional petition is required to facilitate the entry of the present amendment, please consider this communication a petition

therefore as well. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees beyond the amount enclosed which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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